(b) whether it is a fact that large funds and personnel have been earmarked for making roads safer in the country;

(c) if so, whether Government have not reacted to requests for study on high-incidence areas of road accidents in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether Government's attention has been repeatedly and frequently drawn to the certain spots and segments in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh as being high accident prone; and

(e) the reasons for the refusal of Government to despatch expert teams to reduce the death toll?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) National Highways Authority of India has received representations concerning certain accident prone areas on NH-5 from Appanaveedu to Paraveli. This Section is proposed to be improved as a four lane facility. Further, various safety measures like construction of Road over bridges, provision of central median, improvement of interesections and road geometrics, railings on high embankment, provision of road signs and road markings etc. are being included in the projects being taken up for the development of National Highways.

Repair of Damaged National Highways in Punjab

2111. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the length of National Highways damaged in Punjab during last one decade;

(b) the details of the National Highways so affected, district-wise;

(c) the amount of fund required to repair the damaged Highways;

(d) whether Government have sanctioned any funds for the purpose so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Total 868.155 Kms. length of National Highways was damaged in Punjab. The details of National Highways damaged due to rains/floods district-wise is as under:—

Districts	Kms.
Amritsar	49.00
Bhatinda	37.00
Ferozepur	23.12
Gurdaspur	100.30
Hoshiarpur	79.01
Jalandhar	108.45
Kapurthala	62.90
Ludhiana	38.125
Muktsar	65.00
Patiala	142.635
Sangrur	2.00
Ropar	144.335
Faridkot	16.28
TOTAL	868.155

(c) to (e) The details of year-wise requirement of funds by State Government and allocation made by the Ministry for repair of damages to national Highways is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Requirement of funds made by State Government	Funds Allocated by the Ministry
1989-90	155.87	151.00
1990-91	286.08	124.69
1991-92	168.55	152.87
1992-93	63.964	170.00

Year	Requirement of funds made by State Government	Funds Allocated by the Ministry
1993-94	84.664	91.67
1994-95	56.36	87.59
1995-96	252.89	109.84
1996-97	116.21	205.49
1997-98	267.62	276.71
1998-99	174.23	241.44
TOTAL	1626.438	1611.30

Amendment of Major Port Trust Act

2112. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to amend the Major Port Trust Act; and

(b) whether Government are interested in further amending the Act in order to invite private capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Fund required for Maintenance of Ports

2113. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of capital which will be required for maintenance and running of the major ports of the country;

(b) whether Government have found out the capital for the same; and

(c) the time-frame fixed for the purpose?